

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354

September 9, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO:
9210 (FA-610) P

EMS Transmission 09/09/03
Information Bulletin No. OF&A 2003- 067

To: State Directors

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: Fire Management Planning Training Sessions

DD: 09/19/03

This is to inform you of upcoming fire management plan (FMP) training we are planning and the schedule we have worked out with fire management officers (FMOs) from your respective states. The goal of this training is to provide knowledge and understanding of the guidance for completing fire management plan revisions using the new interagency template (see OF&A 2003-038, dated July 11, 2003). The training is designed to assist field offices in developing Fire Management Plans (FMPs) in the required format by September 30, 2004. The training will also provide participants an understanding of how to develop quantifiable suppression response objectives (based on land use plan and activity plan direction) which will be used in the Fire Program Analysis (FPA) system.

The target audience for this training includes field office personnel who will be preparing the FMPs (FMOs, interdisciplinary team leads, non-fire resource specialists), those who will review FMPs for technical adequacy and policy issues (state FMP leads, planning and environmental coordination leads, state FMOs), and collaborators (other federal, state and local entities involved in joint fire planning efforts).

Attached are the proposed training schedule and a draft course outline. If you have comments on the draft course outline, or would like for us to address additional aspects of fire planning, please provide feedback to Jim Rosetti, Fire Management Specialist, by September 19, 2003.

We will be working with the state contacts to provide follow up logistics for each session. If you have questions please contact Jim Rosetti, at 208-387-5197. We look forward to your participation in the session.

Signed by:
Larry E. Hamilton
Director
Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:
Pat Lewis
Supervisory Mgmt. Asst.
Office Services

2 Attachments:
Schedule (1 p)
Draft Course Outline (3 pp)

DISTRIBUTION:
Acting Fire Program Advisor, FA-101,WO
BLM ADs
OF&A Management Team
BC Library

2004 Fire Management Plan Training Sessions			
Date	State(s)	Location	State Contact
October 20-21	Montana	Billings, MT	Pat Mullaney
December 11-12	Idaho	Boise, ID	Krista Waid
November 12-13	Arizona/New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM	John Selkirk and Mike Fisher
December 1-2	California	Sacramento, CA	Art Porter
December 4-5	Nevada/Utah	Wendover, NV	Kevin Hull/Sheldon Wimmer
December 8-9	Colorado/Wyoming	Denver, CO	Bill Wallis and Dennis Zachman
TBD	Alaska	TBD	
TBD	Eastern States	TBD (Possibly with Idaho session)	Jay Thietten

Fire Management Planning Training Preliminary Course Outline (8/20/03)

Short-term goal: Provide knowledge and understanding of template to allow field offices to develop Fire Management Plans (FMP) by September 30, 2004.

Success: All FMPs completed in template format, with at a minimum quantifiable suppression response objectives by September 30, 2004.

Long-term goal: All FMPs are interagency plans following the template format.

Target Audience: Those in field offices who will be writing the FMP (FMO/IDT lead, non-fire resource specialists) and those who will review for technical guidance/policy (state FMP lead and P&EC, state FMOs).

Training Outline

Introduction and House Keeping (30 minutes)

Unit 1 – Why are we here? (1 hour)

Why are we here?

- ? LUP-FMP-FPA
- ? Compliance with Federal Fire Policy
- ? Strategies for resolving missing guidance (decisions)
- ? Different timelines/issues (within fire and other initiatives)
- ? BLM planning process

Why revise our FMPs?

- ? The Vision
- ? NEPA (and ESA/NHPA/etc)
- ? Interagency Plans & Other agency guidance

Unit 2 – What does the Interagency Template look like? (1.5 hours)
(Placing objective exercise)

What does the Template look like?

- ? Template outline
- ? Differences among chapters (goals & objectives)
- ? Discuss what we want the FMP to look like – short-term and long-term

What is different from our current FMPs and the Template?

- ? Individual office format – 1 interagency, consistent format
- ? Agency specific FMP – Interagency FMP
- ? Agency specific planning area – Interagency FPU
- ? FMZs & RLs --- FMUs
- ? Focus on suppression (initial attack budget and organization)—focus on entire wildland fire management program strategy: AMR, Fuels, Prevention
- ? LUP provided general guidance (goals) for suppression (MEL) – More multiple resource objective driven – all wildland fire management programs

Unit 3 – How do we develop specific sections that are new in this FMP requirement?

(Nuts & Bolts) (4.5 hours)

- ? How do we define and FPU? (3 hours)
- ? How do we develop our FMUs?
- ? What types of objectives are needed at each planning level? (LUP goals/objectives, FMP goals/objectives, FPA needs)
- ? Where do we find already determined objectives?
- ? What do we need to know about condition class? (30 minutes)
- ? What do we need to include regarding the entire fuels management program? (30 minutes)
- ? How can we use GIS for analysis and decision documentation? (30 minutes)

(FMU development exercise – draw FMU lines and put in at least 1 suppression objectives a 1 FMU (1 hr) – (objectives by FIL)

Unit 4 – How do we get our FMP approved and funded? (2 hours)

What is the approval process and who has the decision authority? (15 minutes)

What is the annual funding and budget process? (45 minutes)

- ? Fire specific budget process
- ? Tie to BLM budget process

How does all this relate to FPA? (1 hour)

- ? Brief overview of FPA
- ? What do we do until the first FPA run?
- ? What do we need to do to prepare for the FPA run?

Unit 5 – Close-out (30 minutes)